

Message Text

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64

ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 NSC-10 SCA-01 INR-10 BNDE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6635

UNCLAS MEXICO 4573

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR/ MX

SUBJ: NARCOTIC ADDICT TREATMENT LAWS

FOR CANDACE COWAN, WHITE HOUSE/ SAO

REF: STATE 114195

1. ACCORDING TO DR. GUIDO BELSASSO, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENCY RESEARCH (CEMEF) THERE IS NO LEGITIMATE METHADONE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN MEXICO (SEE MEXICO 2248 OF MAY 2, 1972). HE STATED THAT THERE ARE 42 " REGISTERED" HEROIN ADDICTS WHO, THROUGH SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, RECEIVE HEROIN AT LOW COST. ALTHOUGH THIS IS NOT FORMALIZED HEROIN MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, NET EFFECT IS THE SAME.

2. DR. BELSASSO HIMSELF HAS TREATED 3 CASES OF ADDICTION BY USE OF METHADONE(SEE EMBASSY MEMCON OF JULY 7, 1972). ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO APPROVED PROGRAMS AS SUCH, THE MINIMAL HEROIN MAINTENANCE PROGRAM REFERRED TO IN PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH IS UNDER DIRECTION OF DR. ARMANDO BEJARANO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOOD, BEVERAGES, AND DRUG CONTROL, SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, REFORMA NO. 503. MEXICO 5, D. F.

3. DR. BELSASSO IS OF THE OPINION THAT THERE WOULD BE NO LEGAL RESTRICTION AGAINST TREATMENT OF FOREIGN NATIONALS
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(HIS OWN METHADONE CASES WERE WITH US CITIZENS).

4. THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC LAWS OR REGULATIONS WHICH
CONTROL USE OF METHADONE OR HEROIN FOR TREATMENT PURPOSES.

5. ADDICTS ARE PROHIBITED ENTRY INTO MEXICO. PERTINENT
REGULATIONS ARE CONTAINED IN REVISED MEXICAN SANITARY CODE
(SEE MEXICO A-208 OF APRIL 30, 1973).

6. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED QUESTION,
BELSASSO ASSUMES THAT PERSON WHO WAS ON METHODONE OR HEROIN
MAINTENANCE PROGRAM WOULD BE CONSIDERED AN ADDICT.
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